

XXXIX.—Note on some Reptiles and a Frog from Argentina.

By Dr. A. GÜNTHER, F.R.S.

I HAVE received from Falkland Ricketts, Esq., a small collection of Reptiles which he made in Santa Fé. It contained three lizards (*Ameiva surinamensis*, *Anisolepis undulatus*, and *Lepidosternum affine*), eight snakes (*Pseudablables Agassizii*, *Liophis pæcilogyrus*, *Xenodon rhabdocephalus* [or *X. Merremii*, Wagl.?, Boul., Peracca], *Thamnodynastes Nattereri*, *Philodryas Schotti*, *Philodryas psammophideus*, *Oxyrhopus rhombifer*, and *Lachesis alternatus*), and one frog, which I consider to be a distinct and undescribed species.

The specimen of *Anisolepis undulatus*, which species is still a desideratum to the majority of collections, is unfortunately not in a good state of preservation. The Amphibænian is, without doubt,

*Lepidosternum affine*, Böttger.

I do not consider *L. Boettgeri*, Boul. Lizards, ii. p. 466, from Corrientes, to be distinct from Böttger's species, and probably both are identical with Strauch's *L. Güntheri*.

The specimen in Mr. Ricketts's collection is of nearly the same size as the type of *L. Boettgeri*. It has 254 annuli of the body and 14 of the tail; an annulus contains 30 dorsal and 26 ventral segments. There are 6 well-formed præanal segments, with a minute rudimentary one on each side. In *L. Boettgeri* I count 7, 3 on one and 4 on the other side. Also the shape and arrangement of the parietal and occipital shields seem subject to abnormal asymmetry and individual variation. In our specimen they are more symmetrical than in the type of *L. Boettgeri*, the parietal being broader than long (one more so than the other) and the occipital not quite twice as broad as long.

I dedicate the new tree-frog to the collector, naming it

*Phyllomedusa Rickettsii*, sp. n.

Parotoids large, rather longer than the head, commencing from above the middle of the eye and forming an elongate prominent pad on each side of the head and neck. Upper and lateral parts, also the upperside of the thighs, covered with rather large tubercles, the remainder of the hind leg, the fore limb, and head being smooth. Lower parts coarsely granular, the largest granules are enclosed within the yellow patches about to be described.

Snout slightly longer than the eye, with distinct canthus rostralis and sloping high sides; tympanum half the size of the eye; interorbital space much broader than the upper eyelid. Tongue with a shallow emargination behind. Vomerine teeth in two short transverse series between the choanæ.

Fingers free, the first shorter than the second, the fourth nearly as long as the third; toes free, the first longer than the second, the fifth much longer than the third. Fingers and toes but slightly swollen at the tip. The length of the body equals the distance of the vent from the metatarsal joint. No metatarsal tubercle.

Upper parts green (bluish in spirit); throat and chest bluish, with a yellow Y-like marking in the middle and other yellow symmetrical markings on the sides; the largest of the granules are within these markings. Lower eyelid with a small yellow spot in front and behind. Lower jaw with a yellow margin, continued as a narrow glandular band to the middle of the length of the body. A yellow spot in each groin and several others round the vent and on the lower side of the thighs. No sharply defined white line along the outer side of the forearm and tarsus.

Length of body 68 millim.

Distance of vent from extremity of longest toe 95 millim.

This species seems to have been seen already by Dr. C. Berg, who refers two *tuberculated* specimens from the Prov. Misiones to *Ph. Burmeisteri* (An. Mus. Nac. Buenos Aires, v. 1896, p. 212); indeed, the two species are closely allied. But after a comparison of our specimen with the types of *Ph. Burmeisteri*, I cannot hesitate to regard the differences in the structure of the skin, in the coloration, and in the form of the head as characters of specific value.

XL.—*Descriptions of six Pierine Butterflies of the Genus Catasticta in the Collection of the British Museum.* By ARTHUR G. BUTLER, Ph.D. &c.

THE following undescribed species were mostly collected by the late Mr. Buckley in Ecuador, and were confounded by Hewitson (who unfortunately destroyed the labels recording their exact habitats) with well-known species.

1. *Catasticta rapina*, sp. n.

Nearest to *C. pinava*, which it nearly resembles on the